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USIB-M-154
9 May 1961

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Joint Study
Group
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UNITED STATES INTELLIGENCE BOARD

Minutes of
One-hundred-fifty-fourth Meeting
United States Intelligence Board
USIB Conference Room, Administration Building
Central Intelligence Agency, at 1030, 9 May 1961

Director of Central Intelligence
Allen W. Dulles
Presiding*

Deputy Director (Intelligence), CIA
Robert Amory, Jr.
Presiding*

MEMBERS PRESENT

Mr. Roger Hilsman, Director of Intelligence and Research, Department
of State
General Graves B. Erskine, Assistant for Special Operations to the
Secretary of Defense
Major General John M. Willems, Assistant Chief of Staff for Intelligence,
Department of the Army
Rear Admiral Vernon L. Lowrance, Assistant Chief of Naval Operations
(Intelligence), Department of the Navy
Brigadier General Linscott A. Hall, acting for Assistant Chief of Staff,
Intelligence, United States Air Force
Vice Admiral Laurence H. Frost, Director, National Security Agency
Rear Admiral William S. Post, Jr., acting for Director for Intelligence,
Joint Staff
Mr. Harry S. Traynor, Atomic Energy Commission representative
to the USIB
Mr. Rolland O. L'Allier, acting for Federal Bureau of Investigation
representative to the USIB

*Part of meeting

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USIB-M-154
9 May 1961

1. Approval of Minutes
2 May Meeting
(USIB-M-153, including Annex
distributed through special
channels)

Approved as circulated, including the Special Annex. (For further action with respect to item 2 of Special Annex see Special Annex to minutes of 9 May meeting attached.)

2. Air Force Representation
on USIB

After introducing Brigadier General William G. Lee, General Hall noted that he had been reassigned and that General Lee would replace him as deputy to General Walsh. The Chairman stated that members would miss General Hall's presence at Board meetings, thanked him for his important contribution to the work of the community and wished him well in his new assignment. The members then welcomed General Lee to the meeting.

3. Watch Committee Report
No. 561

Noted.

4. Review of Sensitive Situations

Angola. The Chairman referred to recent developments bearing on the situation in Angola.

Laos. The Board exchanged views on aspects of the Laotian situation.

Iran. The members reviewed internal developments in Iran, particularly with respect to the composition of the new government.

- 2 -
~~SECRET~~

NND 941322-448

~~SECRET~~

USIB-M-154

9 May 1961

UAR. Reference was made to reports regarding possible moves by the UAR, especially against the Israelis.

Congo. The members discussed certain aspects of the Congo situation including the implications of Tsombe's trial.

Algeria. The Board reviewed developments with respect to Algeria, touching on matters such as the comparative lack of movement at present toward settlement, the apparent inhibiting effect of de Gaulle's uncertainty as to the reliability of military and civilian subordinates and possible moves by the Communists or others to capitalize on the situation. In this connection, the Chairman requested the Board of National Estimates to prepare a memorandum on pertinent Algerian developments and circulate it to Board members for information and possible discussion at the next Board meeting.

Cuba. The Board discussed questions related to Bloc and other shipping present in, or believed to be enroute to Cuban ports, including the possible sources of oil carried in tankers and the extent of Cuban oil storage capacity.

5. Oral Report by Chairman,
Special Committee on
Berlin Situation

Approved the Conclusions of the Committee and agreed that they should be published in the Central Intelligence Bulletin (CIB). In this connection, General Willems invited attention to the recent change of Soviet Berlin commandants involving replacement of a Major General by a Colonel. After the Board discussed the possible implications of this move, the Chairman suggested that the Army supply further information with a view to presenting this matter in more detail in the CIB.

6. Initiation of Revision
of SNIE 100-6-59

The Board concurred in a request by the Joint Staff that a revision

- 3 -

~~SECRET~~

NND 941322-449

~~SECRET~~

USIB-M-154

9 May 1961

of SNIE 100-6-59, "Soviet and Other Reactions to Various Courses of Action in the Berlin Crisis", be initiated, noting also certain points which the Joint Staff suggested for consideration in addition to any updating of the 1959 estimate. It was understood that this paper would be scheduled for consideration by USIB in about 30 days.

7. Release of GMAIC Report on
Soviet Guided Missiles Production
(USIB-D-33.4/18, 4 May;
GMAIC Working Group Report,
dated 21 April, SC No. 04818/61;
available through GMAIC represen-
tatives)

Agreed to release this report as a working paper to the
 as recommended by GMAIC.

8. Implementation of NSC-Approved
Recommendation re Review of
Plans and Programs of Intelligence
Community
(USIB-D-1.5/7, 27 April)

Admiral Post's memorandum (J2DM-155-61) of 5 May setting forth reasons for requesting a deferral of USIB consideration of USIB-D-1.5/7 at this time, and General Balmer's memorandum of 8 May recommending USIB approval of the proposal, were tabled at the meeting. After noting these memoranda the Board members expressed their views regarding the proposal, particularly with respect to the timing of any USIB action in the light of factors such as any forthcoming reorganization of military intelligence agencies, and the relation to established departmental budget cycles, as well as the interest of the Budget Bureau and other high authorities in moving ahead to implement this NSC-approved recommendation of the Joint Study Group. Following discussion the members agreed, as an interim measure, that Board agencies would provide the Coordination Staff with the data requested in Attachment C ("Narrative Information on Foreign Positive Intelligence") and Attachment D ("Narrative Information on Foreign Counterintelligence") by 15 June for

- 4 -

~~SECRET~~

NND 941322-450

~~SECRET~~

USIB-M-154
9 May 1961

review and subsequent submission to USIB around 1 July. Members agreed that the agencies should attempt to supply as complete data as they could under the circumstances. In this connection, the Board also noted certain changes to USIB-D-1. 5/7 tabled by the Joint Staff, and it was understood that these suggestions would be taken into consideration as appropriate, by the Coordination Staff in developing for Board review any future revision of USIB-D-1. 5/7.

9. Implementation of Recommendation
No. 38 of Joint Study Group Report
(USIB-D-1. 5/8, 4 May 1961)

After discussion with Mr. Saunders, particularly in the light of the Board action on the preceding item, the Board concurred in the views of the Cost Estimates Committee as set forth in USIB-D-1. 5/8.

In the course of the discussion General Balmer, in response to questions by members, emphasized that the Coordination Staff had been established pursuant to an NSC-approved Joint Study Group recommendation to operate under the personal supervision of the DCI and separate from any operational responsibility of the CIA or other department or agency. He noted that the NSC also had assigned the functions proposed for a USIB management group to the Coordination Staff.

The Chairman stated that, in order to proceed with implementing the various pertinent NSC directives, letters had been sent out formally requesting nominations for the Coordination Staff at this time of senior intelligence officers from Board agencies in addition to those already nominated by CIA, irrespective of the course of any subsequent reorganization of the military intelligence agencies. General Balmer also indicated that steps would be taken to bring the question of the terms of reference of the Coordination Staff before USIB again at an early date.

- 5 -
~~SECRET~~

NND 941322- 451

~~SECRET~~

USIB-M-154
9 May 1961

10. Release of NIE 11-5-61
Soviet Technical Capabilities
in Guided Missiles and Space
Vehicles
(Memorandum to USIB, 2 May)

Agreed to release NIE 11-5-61 (including Annexes A, B, C
and D)

The Board also agreed that NIE 11-5-61 (including Annexes A, B, C and D) would be released to NASA. It was understood that those Annexes of higher classification (E and F) might also be made available to appropriately cleared NASA personnel with a need-to-know.

11. Release of NIE 11-7-61
Soviet Short-Term Intentions
Regarding Berlin and Germany
(Memorandum to USIB, 28 April)

Agreed to release NIE 11-7-61

12.

- a. Approved as amended (including the Annex), subject to a check by the Air Force of certain questions regarding the Mirage IV and further consideration by JAEIC and the USIB representatives of these findings and related matters. It was understood that the draft estimate, as revised,

- 6 -

~~SECRET~~

NND 941322-452

~~SECRET~~

USIB-M-154
9 May 1961

should then be cleared by the representatives with their respective principals and considered as USIB-approved unless some issue arose which required resolution at a subsequent Board meeting. *

b. Agreed not to release this estimate to USIA.

13. Restricted Session

At 1205 Mr. Dulles requested a restricted session during which several matters were discussed.

During this session the Board concurred in the disposition of certain material pertinent to the warning problem, as proposed in a revision of the memorandum from General Barnes dated 19 April (SC-04953/61-KH), which was tabled at the meeting.

In other action the Board concurred in the view that the Warning Systems Survey Committee (WSSC) should be considered dissolved as of this date.

Adjournment: 1230



JOHN HEIRES
Executive Secretary

*Clearances of the revised text having been completed on 11 May, SNIE 22-61 should be considered as finally approved by USIB as of that date.

- 7 -
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NND 941322-453